REMARKS

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated May 8, 2009. Claims 1-12 have been amended; as such, claims 1-12 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 6, 11, and 12 are independent claims. Reconsideration and allowance is requested in view of the claim amendments and the following remarks.

No new matter has been added by this Amendment.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-3 and 6 have been rejected due to antecedence issues. These claims have been amended in part to address these rejections.

Withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested in light of the amendments.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by U.S. Pub. 2002/0007487 to Matsumoto et al. ("Matsumoto").

Claim 1 recites:

> *An electronic device having a display panel and a plurality of keys to which desired functions can be assigned, comprising:*
>
> > *displaying a plurality of items on the display panel;*
> >
> > *selecting a desired item from the plurality of items;*
> >
> > *displaying a setting screen corresponding to the selected desired item; and*
> >
> > *assigning the selected desired item to one of the plurality of keys using the setting screen,*
> >
> > *wherein at least one of the plurality of keys is assigned the a function for displaying the setting screen; and*

>   *wherein one of the plurality of keys is assigned one of two paired*
>
>   *functions.*

With respect to claim 1, Matsumoto fails to teach or suggest that *"one of the plurality of keys is assigned one of two paired functions."*

Matsumoto discloses a remote control mechanism for adjusting image quality in an incoming video signal. The device includes a remote control (Fig. 7) capable of assigning menu accessible commands to functional buttons 709-715. Figs. 8-14 illustrate how a user can traverse the available menus and register a given command with the function buttons.

However, nowhere does Matsumoto illustrate or describe paired functions.

By contrast, the present application illustrates examples of paired functions. For example, in Fig. 4D, the shake compensation's 'on' and 'off' functions represent paired functions. Similarly, 'edit search +' and 'edit search -' represent paired functions.

Matsumoto does not teach or suggest associating such paired functions with an assignable button.

Claims 5, 11, and 12 recite similar subject matter to claim 1 and are distinct from Matsumato for similar reasons.

>   Claim 2 recites: *[t]he electronic device as set forth in claim 1, wherein when*
>   *said one of two paired functions is assigned to one of the plurality of keys, a*
>   *message which prompts a user to assign the other of the two paired functions*
>   *to the key appears.*

Matsumoto does not teach or suggest *prompt[ing] a user to assign the other of the two paired functions ... when said one of two paired functions is assigned to one of the plurality of keys.*

While Matsumoto discloses assigning functionality to a function key, Matsumoto does not recognize paired functions, nor treat these functions uniquely in any way. As such, Matsumoto fails to teach or suggest prompting a user after such a function is associated with a function key.

Claim 6 recites similar subject matter to claim 2 and is distinct from Matsumato for similar reasons.

> Claim 3 recites: *[t]he electronic device as set forth in claim 1, wherein when*
> *said one of two paired functions is assigned to one of the plurality of keys, the*
> *other of the paired functions is automatically assigned to the key.*

Matsumoto does not teach or suggest *automatically assign[ing a] key when said one of two paired functions is assigned to one of the plurality of keys.*

While Matsumoto discloses assigning functionality to a function key, Matsumoto does not recognize paired function, nor treat these functions uniquely in any way. As such, Matsumoto fails to teach or suggest automatically assigning *the other of the paired functions automatically.*

Claim 7 recites similar subject matter to claim 3 and is distinct from Matsumato for similar reasons.

Claim 6 recites:

> *An electronic device having a display panel and a plurality of keys to*
> *which desired functions can be assigned, comprising:*
> *displaying a plurality of items on the display panel;*
> *selecting a desired item from the plurality of items;*
> *displaying a setting screen corresponding to the selected desired item; and*
> *assigning the selected desired item to one of the plurality of keys using the*
> *setting screen,*
> *displaying a second setting screen for items that are not included in the*
> *plurality of items when the selected desired item is assigned to said one of the*
> *plurality of keys.*

With respect to claim 6, Matsumoto fails to teach or suggest *"displaying a plurality of items on the display panel ... displaying a second setting screen for **items that are not included in the plurality of items** when the selected desired item is assigned to said one of the plurality of keys."*

While Matsumoto discloses assigning functionality to a function key, Matsumoto does not provide a second setting screen for selecting a different set of items than the first setting screen.

Matsumoto therefore fails to teach or suggest various features of claims 1-3. For similar reasons, claims 6-8, 11, and 12 are also neither taught nor suggested by Matsumoto. Furthermore, at least for the reason disclosed above, claims 4, 5, 9, and 10 overcome Matsumoto because they depend on independent claims 1 and 6.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) be withdrawn.
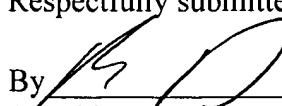
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. SON-3206 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 25, 2009   Respectfully submitted,

By
Ronald P. Kananen
    Registration No.: 24,104
Christopher M. Tobin
    Registration No.: 40,290
RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC
Correspondence Customer Number: 23353
Attorneys for Applicant